

From: William Kuhle
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/17/02 9:05pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Hello:

Microsoft treated the PC hardware platform as if it owned it, and thus hurt consumers, software developers, PC OEMs, OS competitors, and the industry in general. Microsoft is an unrepentant monopolist.

I believe that the best settlement would be:

Microsoft is broken up into separate Systems, Applications, and Internet Explorer companies.

Barring a breakup of Microsoft, penalties should include:

- (1) Microsoft must standardize and publicize the entire set of Windows APIs;
- (2) Microsoft must standardize and publicize the file formats of its Office applications;
- (3) Microsoft must allow the "bootloader" on PC hardware to be controlled by the hardware manufacturers. (The Windows license agreement with PC OEMs specifies that any machine which includes a Microsoft operating system must not also offer a non-Microsoft operating system as a boot option. In other words, a computer that offers to boot into Windows upon startup cannot also offer to boot into Linux or other PC-based OS. The hardware vendor does not get to choose which OSes to install on the machines they sell ? Microsoft does.)

See: <http://www.byte.com/documents/s=1115/byt20010824s0001/>
for more information regarding the bootloader issue.

I believe that monetary penalties will be inadequate. The current remedies proposed by the DOJ and some the the states are inadequate.

Sincerely,

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